

A NEW SPECIES OF TACHINIDÆ FROM PORTO RICO.

(Plate X.)

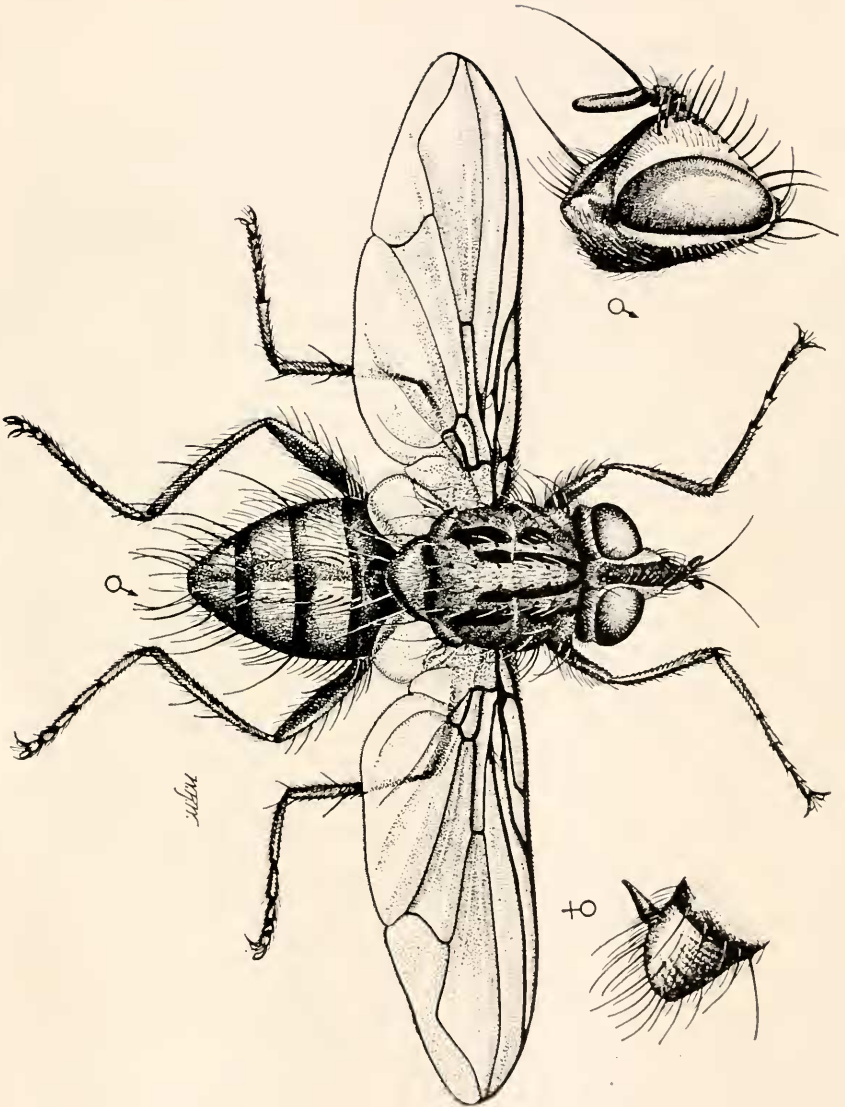
BY W. R. WALTON.

The tachinid parasites on the adult beetles of the genus *Lachnosterna* so far as recorded seem to be confined to two genera, namely, *Cryptomeigenia* B. & B., and *Eutrixia* Coq. Although the above-named genera have been widely dissociated in all the tables classifying the family, they are not dissimilar in general appearance, though varying in size, and may well be much more closely allied than has generally been acknowledged. But two species, belonging to each of the genera before mentioned, have hitherto been recorded as being parasitic on the adults of *Lachnosterna*, the habits of the remainder of the species included being as yet unknown to science. The hitherto known are *Eutrixia exile* Coq., and *Cryptomeigenia theutis* Walker, the host of which is mentioned below. One other North American species, namely, *Microphthalma disjuncta* Wied., is known as a larval parasite of "May beetles." This was reared from a larval skin of *Lachnosterna arcuata* by Mr. Theo. Pergande, October 5, 1891. *Microphthalma* occurs also in Europe, where it will probably be found to parasitize the larva of *Melolontha*.

The genus *Cryptomeigenia* was erected by Brauer and Bergenstamm¹ in 1891 from a single male specimen collected in Brazil and which they called *setifacies*; although Walker² had previously described a species, namely, *theutis*, under the old genus *Tachina*; it was evidently overlooked by the authors of the genus. The late Mr. D. W. Coquillett was, it seems, the first person to recognize this species as being congeneric with *setifacies* B. & B., and we find it referred to its proper place in his indispensable "Revision of the North American Tachinidæ." Brauer and Bergenstamm's description of *Cryptomeigenia setifacies* is in a large degree unsatisfactory because of its lack of specific detail, but since it disagrees in some important particulars with several specimens in hand, and as it is impossible for the author to see the type, a new species is herewith proposed for their reception, which is called *aurifacies*. This is obviously distinct from *theutis* of Walker, which is known as a parasite of *Lachnosterna* in the northern United States, having been reared from an adult of *Lachnosterna inversa* Horn, by Mr. Theodore Pergande, at Washington, D. C., in 1892.

¹ Zweiflüg. des Kaiser. Mus., v, 331, 1891.

² List, IV, 228.



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